1st September 1961]

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Sir, did the Commissioner obtain the prior permission of the superiors before he issued that circular?

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : The Collector of North Arcot issued instructions requesting the subordinates to purchase prize bonds and try their luck. Following this, he has given only instructions.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is the sale of these prize bonds to be effected on a voluntary or compulsory basis, Sir?

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : It was voluntary. The prize bonds were bought willingly by the employees there.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it a fact, Sir, that the Commissioner of the said municipality fixed the amount or the value of the prize bonds that each category of subordinates should purchase?

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : He did it in such a way so that others may not overdo things.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Is it a fact, Sir, that the Commissioner did not take into consideration the economic status of people like scavengers when he compelled these people to purchase the prize bonds?

THE HON. SRIMATHY LOURDHAMMAL SIMON :They were not compelled. They were only instructed. And, as I already stated, they bought these bonds willingly.

MR. CHAIRMAN : Next question.

DR. A. SREENIVASAN : I want to know, Sir, since it is a delicate matter.........

MR. CHAIRMAN : Order, order. I have passed on to the next question.

Supply of catamarans

* 335 *Q.*—VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Local Administration be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to supply catamarans and ready made country boats to the fishermen through Co-operative Societies; and

(*b*) if so, the stage at which the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : (*a*) & (*b*) There is no proposal to supply catamarans to fishermen through Co-operative Societies. However, the Scheme for the grant of long-term loans o the members of Marine Fishermen Co-operative

Societies for the purchase of catamaran logs and other fishing implements is already under operation. Recently loans amounting to Rs. 25,000 and Rs. 20,000 have been sanctioned to the Tirunelveli and Ramanathapuram Fishermen Co-operative Federation respectively for the construction and supply of "Vallams" to the members of the Fishermen Co-operative Societies affiliated to the Federations.

VIDWAN T. MUTHUKANNAPPAN : இந்தக் கட்டுமரங்கள் இலங்கை, மலையாளம் போன்ற தொலைதூரங்களிலிருந்து வர வேண்டியிருப்பதால், தனிப்பட்ட ஏழைகள் கஷ்டப்படுகிறார்கள். அரசாங்கமே அதை வாங்கிக்கொடுக்க முயற்சி செய்வதுபற்றி யோசிக்குமா ?

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : அதை கவனித்து அதன்படி சிறிதுகாலம் அங்கிருந்து மரங்கள் வர வழைக்கப்பட்டன. சில பிரச்னைகள் ஏற்பட்டதால், தற்போது அது நடைமுறையில் இல்லாமல் இருக்கிறது.

SRI M. ETHIRAJALU : ராமனாதபுரத்திற்கும் திருநெல்வேலிக்கும் ரூ. 45,000 கடன் கொடுப்பதாகச் சொல்லப்படுகிறது. தென்னாட்டில் மற்ற ஜில்லா மீனவர்களுக்கும் கடன் கொடுக்கப் படுகிறதா ?

THE HON. SRIMATHI LOURDHAMMAL SIMON : தென்னாட்டில் மற்ற ஜில்லா மீனவர்கள் கடன் வேண்டுமென்று விரும்பினால், அவர்களுடைய நிலைமையையும் தேவைகளையும் வசதிகளையும் பொறுத்து அரசாங்கத்தார் அதை வகுத்துக் கொடுக்கின்றார்கள்.

District Headquarters Hospital at Cuddalore

* 336 Q.—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : Will the Hon. the Minister for Revenue be pleased to state—

(a) whether the construction of a 100-bedded ward in the District Headquarters Hospital at Cuddalore has been completed; and

(b) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : (a) No, Sir.

(b) The contractor to whom the work was entrusted originally, did not complete the work even after the grant of two extensions of time beyond the contract period. The contract has, therefore, been terminated and arrangements are being made to resume the work by other agency.

SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN : What is the other agency to whom this work has been entrusted?

THE HON. SRI M. A. MANICKAVELU : I think the Government themselves undertook this work.